

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9466

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 939

FOR UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EG, USEGJC

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY ECONOMIC AID FOR EGYPT IN CY '76

REF CAIRO 685

1. AS I WAS LEAVING FAHMY'S OFFICE TODAY, HE CALLED ME BACK. HE WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER I HAD NOT YET RECEIVED A REPLY TO HIS REQUEST THAT YOU COME TO CAIRO TO DISCUSS A NEW USG HAT-PASSING EFFORT ON BEHALF OF EGYPT (REFTEL).

2. WHEN I TOLD HIM THAT I AS YET HAD NO REPLY, HE SAID HE HAD MENTIONED TO SADAT MY EARLIER PERTINENT APPROACH AND HIS REACTION TO IT. SADAT HAD GENERALLY AGREED WITH HIS REACTION. GOE COULD NOT CONVENE SUCH A MEETING AND SADAT HAD INSISTED USG EARLIER MADE COMMITMENT TO ASSIST EGYPT IN SOLICITING EMERGENCY RELIEF ASSISTANCE.

3. SADAT HAS SUGGESTED, HOWEVER, THAT USG SHOULD CONVENE A CONFERENCE IN CAIRO OF IBRD AND POSSIBLE DONOR COUNTRY REPS TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT. THE PRESIDENT, ACCORDING TO FAHMY, HAD INDICATED THIS SHOULD BE DONE QUICKLY.

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4. FAHMY SUGGESTED THAT POSSIBLE DONORS WOULD PROBABLY RESPOND TO USG INVITATION MADE WITH GOE ENDORSEMENT. HE URGED THAT WE ACCEDE TO GOE REQUEST AND TAKE NEEDED ACTION WITHOUT DELAY. GOE WILL, OF COURSE, WELCOME A VISIT BY YOU AS SOON AS IT MAY BE CONVENIENT FOR YOU.

5. COMMENT. DEPT BETTER ABLE TO ASSESS LIKELY RESPONSE TO SUCH A USG INVITATION. CONCEIVABLY, IF IT IS EXTENDED WITH GOE ENDORSEMENT, POSSIBLE DONORS WOULD PARTICIPATE. JAPANESE AMBASSADOR WADA HAS SEVERAL TIMES TOLD ME, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT HE BELIEVES HIS OWN GOVT WOULD MUCH PREFER A USG-CONVENED DONOR MEETING THAN ONE CALLED BY IBRD. IN ANY CASE, SINCE FAHMY SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED PRESIDENT SADAT'S REFERENCE TO IBRD PARTICIPATION, IT COULD BE A USEFUL FORUM TO URGE EGYPTIANS TO BE MORE RESPONSIVE TO IBRD SUGGESTIONS. ASSUME YOU WILL WISH TO DISCUSS EGYPTIAN REQUEST WITH THE SECRETARY, BUT WOULD WELCOME A RESPONSE ASAP.

6. WE ARE SENDING BY SEPTTEL EGYPTIAN FOREIGN EXCHANGE BUDGET FOR CY '76, BASED ON FIGURES WHICH WE HAVE FINALLY BEEN ABLE TO EXTRACT FROM SARRAF.
EILTS

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NNN

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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